

Brandie McKay Coburn
261 Jones St
Amston, CT 06231
HB 5537

March 13, 2014

Dear CT PHC Testimony,

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee:

I write to ask you to strongly support and vote in the affirmative to add bill language for the modernization of the CT Naturopathic physician scope of practice to HB 5537. The language needs to be attached to this bill so it can come before the Public Health Committee for consideration. This Naturopathic scope of practice law is 90 years old and has not kept pace with the significant advances in education and training of Naturopathic doctors in the ensuing decades.

Naturopathic medicine focuses on proper nutrition and lifestyle for the prevention of disease and the treatment of disease. Instead of masking symptoms with expensive medications, Naturopathic medicine seeks the root cause of ailments and addresses them in a holistic manner. This approach acknowledges and respects the body/mind/spirit connection and uses scientifically proven interventions to improve symptoms, while supporting the body's healing.

A large component of this approach to medicine is patient education, empowerment and accountability. The end goal is to restore proper function to the body. Given half a chance, the body will heal itself. Removing offending diet and lifestyle habits and replacing them with healing and supportive alternatives gives lasting healing and vibrant health in the most economic and non-invasive manner possible.

Please support this initiative. It is time for the people of Connecticut to learn how to be responsible for their well being. The current methods of modern medicine are far too costly for all of us. We are becoming bankrupt, financially, physically and emotionally. It is time to restore balance and a Naturopathic approach is all about respecting and restoring balance and the body's inherent ability to heal.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,
Brandie McKay Coburn